

DECLARATION

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our names.

I believe I am the original, and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MINIMIZING THICKNESS-TO-PLANARITY AND DISHING IN CMP**," the specification of which:

 X is attached hereto.
 Was filed on as Application Serial No.:

I hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

			<u>Priority Claimed</u>
(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No
(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to us to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, which become available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
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I hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls be addressed to Michael G. Fletcher, Fletcher Yoder, P.O. Box 692289, Houston, Texas 77269-2289, (281) 970-4545.

I hereby declare that all statements made of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor's Full Name: Suresh Ramarajan
(First) (Initial) (Last)

Inventor's Signature: R. Suresh

Date: 12/31/03 Country of Citizenship India

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Post Office Address:
(If different) _____

Date:
Reel:
Frame: